



WSSC Water Laboratory Upgrade

Expanding Excellence: Ensuring Another Century of Safe Water

- Expanding to ensure another century of safe water, WSSC Water is investing \$36.7 million to upgrade its Maryland Department of the Environment-certified laboratory to meet increased demand for water quality analysis.
- The existing laboratory was constructed in 2001 and combined several remote water analysis facilities into one consolidated building. The facility was designed with a future expansion in consideration.
- Over 500,000 water quality tests are performed annually at this laboratory, including analysis of drinking water, source water, wastewater, stormwater, landfill effluent and biosolids samples.
- The results of these tests are used to make operational changes, adjust treatment processes, and for regulatory reporting for numerous WSSC Water wastewater and water facilities and systems.
- During the past 18 years, WSSC Water's Laboratory Division has experienced an increased analytical workload, number of employees and instruments and additional functions. The number of water-quality analyses performed each year is expected to increase to more than 750,000 in the next 20 years.
- WSSC Water currently depends on contract laboratories for critical and regulatory analyses that cannot be handled in house due to space, infrastructure and instrument limitations.
- A business case study was performed in 2018 to address growing demands for water analysis. After evaluating a few alternatives, full expansion was considered the most feasible alternative to address the increased demand.
- The expanded facility will add 19,720 square feet of workspace to the 27,193 square feet of the existing facility. Once completed, the new expansion will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certified under the U.S. Green Building Council rating system.
- Construction will start in summer 2022 and be substantially complete in spring/summer 2025.